

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TAGS: ECE, SOCI
SUBJECT: ECE 7TH SESSION OF THE WORKING PARTY ON HOUSING

1. SEVENTH SESSION OF WORKING PARTY ON HOUSING OF THE
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE WAS ATTENDED BY 23
NATIONS. NOTABLE ABSENCES WERE USSR, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC AND ITALY. DELEGATES STRESSED RECURRING THEMES
OF ENERGY COSTS, REHABILITATION AND MODERNIZATION.

2. FINANCING: WORKING PARTY REVIEWED DRAFT OUTLINE ON
HOUSING FINANCE MODEL MONOGRAPH, AGREED THAT NORWAY AND
CZECHOSLOVAKIA WOULD PROCEED IN PREPARATION OF MONO-
GRAPHS. U.S. EXPRESSED HUD INTEREST, OFFERED TO SEND
EXISTING MATERIALS ON HOUSING FINANCE.

3. HOUSING AND NATIONAL ECONOMY: PRESENTATION BY
CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND DENMARK/SWEDEN OF MODEL MONOGRAPHS
LED TO LIVELY DISCUSSION ON WHETHER TOPIC SHOULD BE CON-
TINUED. FRANCE, SWITZERLAND AND SECRETARIAT QUESTIONED
PURPOSE AND NEED FOR CONTINUATION. CHAIRMAN NOTED MANY
OVERLAPS WITH OTHER TOPICS. CONCLUSION WAS THAT
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INTERESTED COUNTRIES WILL PREPARE NOTES BY (2-3 PAGES)
BY SEPTEMBER, 1978, TO BE REVIEWED AND INTRODUCED AT
8TH SESSION.

4. SPECIAL HOUSING NEEDS: WORKING PARTY AGREED THAT
TOPIC HAD BEEN EXPLORED SUFFICIENTLY AND COULD BE
DROPPED. CONSENSUS THAT MIGRANT LABOR AS SPECIAL CONCERN

SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN UP, SINCE IT IS PROBLEM ONLY IN WESTERN EUROPE AND SEVERAL COUNTRIES (ESPECIALLY FRG AND SWITZERLAND) ARE OPPOSED. NOTE: MIGRANT WORKER HERE MEANS FOREIGN WORKERS (GENERALLY MANUFACTURING AND SERVICE INDUSTRIES) RESIDENT IN OTHER COUNTRY AS CONTRASTED TO MIGRATORY FARM WORKERS OF U.S.

5. HOUSING FORECASTING: SUMMARY PRESENTED BY UK OF TECHNIQUES USED IN ECE COUNTRIES. WIDE PARTICIPATION IN DISCUSSION. U.S. AGREED TO SUBMIT HOUSING GOALS REPORT WHEN COMPLETED. SECRETARIAT WILL SEEK FUNDS FOR CONSULTANT TO SYNTHESIZE FURTHER NATIONAL MONOGRAPHS ON THIS SUBJECT.

6. HOUSING MANAGEMENT: PAPERS BY SWEDEN AND UKRAINE. EXTENSIVE INTEREST EXPRESSED ON FURTHER STUDY. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION AND INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR BUILDING RESEARCH STUDIES AND DOCUMENTATION WILL SUBMIT PAPERS IN EARLY 1979 AND TWO RAPPORTEURS WILL REVISE PAPERS TO SERVE AS MODEL MONOGRAPHS. ALL COUNTRIES ASKED TO SUBMIT IDEAS ON SPECIAL HOUSING MANAGEMENT ISSUES BY SEPTEMBER, 1978, FOR USE OF RAPPORTEURS. AT NEXT MEETING IN 1979, MEMBERS WILL BE ASKED TO SUBMIT NATIONAL MONOGRAPHS.

7. CURRENT HOUSING POLICY: TWENTY COUNTRIES INCLUDING U.S. PRESENTED BRIEF STATEMENTS, EMPHASIZING ENERGY UNCLASSIFIED

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DEVELOPMENTS AND INTEREST IN REHABILITATION AND MODERNIZATION. U.S. DELEGATION INTRODUCED RECENT URBAN AND REGIONAL POLICY GROUP REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT, STRESSING COMMITMENT TO INNER CITIES AND DETERIORATED HOUSING. ALSO, EXPLAINED CURRENT RESEARCH ON ENERGY STANDARDS AND RETROFIT.

8. COMMENT: USDEL BELIEVES THAT IN FUTURE U.S. SHOULD ENCOURAGE WORKING PARTY TO FOCUS PARTICULAR ATTENTION IN ITS WORK ON (A) HOUSING FINANCE AND (B) FORECASTING AS THESE ARE AREAS WHERE U.S. CAN MAKE ESPECIALLY USEFUL CONTRIBUTION OR LEARN FROM EXPERIENCE OF OTHERS. VANDEN HEUVEL

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